To A'ctivate. *v. a.* [from *active.*] To make active. This word is perhaps uſed only by the author alleged.

As ſnow and ice, eſpecially being holpen, and their cold *activated* by nitre or ſalt, will turn water into ice, and that in a few hours; ſo it may be, it will turn wood or ſtiff clay into ſtone, in longer time. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſtory*, N° 83.

A'ctive. *adj.* [*activus*, Lat.]

1. That which has the power or quality of acting.

Theſe particles have not only a *vis inertiæ*, accompanied with ſuch paſſive laws of motion, as naturally reſult from that force, but alſo they are moved by certain *active* principles, ſuch as is that of gravity, and that which cauſes fermentation, and the coheſion of bodies. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. That which acts, oppoſed to *paſſive*, or that which ſuffers.

— When an even flame two hearts did touch,
His office was indulgently to fit
Actives to paſſives, correſpondency
Only his ſubject was. *Donne.*

If you think that by multiplying the additaments in the ſame proportion, that you multiply the ore, the work will follow, you may be deceived: for quantity in the paſſive will add more reſiſtance than the quantity in the *active* will add force. *Bacon's Phyſical Remains.*

3. Buſy, engaged in action; oppoſed to *idle* or *ſedentary*, or any ſtate of which the duties are performed only by the mental powers.

'Tis virtuous action that muſt praiſe bring forth,
Without which, ſlow advice is little worth;
Yet they who give good counſel, praiſe deſerve,
Though in the *active* part they cannot ſerve. *Sir J. Denham.*

4. Practical; not merely theoretical.

The world hath had in theſe men freſh experience, how dangerous ſuch *active* errors are. *Hooker, Preface.*

5. Nimble; agile; quick.

Some bend the ſtubborn bow for victory;
And ſome with darts their *active* ſinews try. *Dryd. Æn.* vii.

6. In grammar.

A verb *active* is that which ſignifies action, as does, *I teach.* *Clarke's Latin Grammar.*

A'ctively. *adv.* [from *active.*] In an active manner; buſily; nimbly. In an active ſignification; as, *the word is uſed actively.*

A'ctiveness. *n. ſ.* [from *active.*] The quality of being active; quickneſs; nimbleneſs. This is a word more rarely uſed than *activity.*

What ſtrange agility and *activeneſs* do our common tumblers and dancers on the rope attain to, by continual exerciſe? *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*

Acti'vity. *n. ſ.* [from *active.*] The quality of being active, applied either to things or perſons.

Salt put to ice, as in the producing of the artificial ice, increaſeth the *activity* of cold. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt.* N° 73.

Our adverſary will not be idle, though we are; he watches every turn of our ſoul, and incident of our life; and, if we remit our *activity*, will take advantage of our indolence. *Rogers.*

A'ctor. *n. ſ.* [*actor*, Lat.]

1. He that acts, or performs any thing.

The virtues of either age may correct the defects of both: and good for ſucceſſion, that young men may be learners, while men in age are *actors.* *Bacon, Eſſay* civ.

He, who writes an *Encomium Neronis*, if he does it heartily, is himſelf but a tranſcript of Nero in his mind, and would, no doubt, gladly enough ſee ſuch pranks, as he was famous for, acted again, though he dares not be the *actor* of them himſelf. *South's Sermons.*

2. He that perſonates a character; a ſtage-player.

Would you have
Such an Herculean *actor* in the ſcene,
And not this hydra? They muſt ſweat no leſs
To fit their properties, than t'expreſs their parts. *Ben Johnſon's Catiline.*

When a good *actor* doth his part preſent,
In every act he our attention draws,
That at the laſt he may find juſt applauſe. *Sir J. Denham.*

Theſe falſe beauties of the ſtage are no more laſting than a rain-bow; when the *actor* ceaſes to ſhine upon them, when he gilds them no longer with his reflection, they vaniſh in a twinkling. *Dryd. Spaniſh Friar, Dedication.*

A'ctress. *n. ſ.* [*actrice*, Fr.]

1. She that performs any thing.

Virgil has, indeed, admitted Fame as an *actreſs* in the *Æneid*; but the part ſhe acts is very ſhort, and none of the moſt admired circumſtances of that divine work. *Addiſ. Spect.*

2. A woman that plays on the ſtage.

We ſprights have juſt ſuch natures
We had, for all the world, when human creatures;
And therefore I that was an *actreſs* here,
Play all my tricks in hell, a goblin there. *Dryd. Tyr. Love.*

A'ctual. *adj.* [*actuel*, Fr.]

1. That which compriſes action.

In this ſlumbry agitation, beſides her walking and other *actual* performances, what, at any time, have you heard her ſay? *Shakeſpeare's Macbeth.*

2. Really in act; not merely potential.

Sin, there in pow'r before
Once *actual*; now in body, and to dwell
Habitual habitant. *Milt. Paradiſe Loſt, b.* x. *l.* 587.

3. In act; not purely in ſpeculation.

For he that but conceives a crime in thought,
Contracts the danger of an *actual* fault:
Then what muſt he expect, that ſtill proceeds
To finiſh ſin, and work up thoughts to deeds? *Dryden's Juvenal, Sat.* xiii.

Actua'lity. *n. ſ.* [from *actual.*] The ſtate of being actual.

The *actuality* of theſe ſpiritual qualities is thus impriſoned, though their potentiality be not quite deſtroyed; and thus a craſs, extended, impenetrable, paſſive, diviſible, unintelligent ſubſtance is generated, which we call matter. *Cheyn. Phil. Prin.*

A'ctually. *adv.* [from *actual.*] In act; in effect; really.

All mankind acknowledge themſelves able and ſufficient to do many things, which *actually* they never do. *South.*

Read one of the chronicles written by an author of this frame of mind, and you will think you were reading a hiſtory of the kings of Iſrael or Judah, where the hiſtorians were *actually* inſpired, and where, by a particular ſcheme of providence, the kings were diſtinguiſhed by judgments or bleſſings, according as they promoted idolatry, or the worſhip of the true God. *Addiſon. Spectator*, N° 483.

Though our temporal proſpects ſhould be full of danger, or though the days of ſorrow ſhould *actually* overtake us, yet ſtill we muſt repoſe ourſelves on God. *Rogers, Sermon* xix.

A'ctualness. *n. ſ.* [from *actual.*] The quality of being actual.

A'ctuary. *n. ſ.* [*actuarius*, Lat.] The regiſter who compiles the minutes of the proceedings of a court; a term of the civil law.

Suppoſe the judge ſhould ſay, that he would have the keeping of the acts of court remain with him, and the notary will have the cuſtody of them with himſelf: certainly, in this caſe, the *actuary* or writer of them ought to be preferred. *Ayliffe's Parergon Juris Canonici.*

A'ctuate. *adj.* [from the verb *To actuate.*] Put into action; animated; brought into effect.

The active informations of the intellect, filling the paſſive reception of the will, like form cloſing with matter, grew *actuate* into a third and diſtinct perfection of practice. *South.*

To A'CTUATE. *v. a.* [from *ago*, *actum*, Lat.] To put into action; to invigorate or encreaſe the powers of motion.

The light made by this animal depends upon a living ſpirit, and ſeems, by ſome vital irradiation, to be *actuated* into this luſtre. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* iii. *c.* 6.

Such is every man, who has not *actuated* the grace given him, to the ſubduing of every reigning ſin. *Decay of Piety.*

Men of the greateſt abilities are moſt fired with ambition; and, on the contrary, mean and narrow minds are the leaſt *actuated* by it. *Addiſon. Spectator*, N° 255.

Our paſſions are the ſprings which *actuate* the powers of our nature. *Rogers, Sermon* iii.

Actuo'se. *adj.* [from *act.*] That which hath ſtrong powers of action; a word little uſed.

To A'cuate. *v. a.* [*acuo*, Lat.] To ſharpen, to invigorate with any powers of ſharpneſs.

Acu'leate. *adj.* [*aculeatus*, Lat.] That which has a point or ſting; prickly; that which terminates in a ſharp point.

ACU'MEN. n. ſ. [Lat.] A ſharp point; figuratively, quickneſs of intellects.

The word was much affected by the learned Ariſtarchus in common converſation, to ſignify genius or natural *acumen.* *Pope's Dunciad, b.* iv. *notes.*

Acu'minated. *particip. adj.* Ending in a point; ſharp-pointed.

This is not *acuminated* and pointed, as in the reſt, but ſeemeth, as it were, cut off. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* vii. *c.* 14.

I appropriate this word, *Noli me tangere*, to a ſmall round *acuminated* tubercle, which hath not much pain, unleſs it be touched or rubbed, or otherways exaſperated by topicks. *Wiſeman's Surgery.*

ACU'TE. *adj.* [*acutus*, Lat.]

1. Sharp, ending in a point; oppoſed to *obtuſe* or *blunt.*

Having the ideas of an obtuſe and an *acute* angled triangle, both drawn from equal baſes and between parallels, I can, by intuitive knowledge, perceive the one not to be the other, but cannot that way know whether they be equal. *Locke.*

2. In a figurative ſenſe applied to men; ingenious; penetrating; oppoſed to *dull* or *ſtupid.*

The *acute* and ingenious author, among many very fine thoughts, and uncommon reflections, has ſtarted the notion of ſeeing all things in God. *Locke.*

3. Spoken of the ſenſes, vigorous; powerful in operation.

Were our ſenſes altered, and made much quicker and *acuter*, the appearance and outward ſcheme of things would have quite another face to us. *Locke.*

4. Acute diſeaſe. Any diſeaſe, which is attended with an increaſed velocity of blood, and terminates in a few days. *Quincy.*

5. Acute accent; that which raiſes or ſharpens the voice.

Acu'tely. *adv.* [from *acute.*] After an acute manner; ſharply; it is uſed as well in the figurative as primitive ſenſe.

He that will look into many parts of Aſia and America, will find men reaſon there, perhaps, as *acutely* as himſelf, who yet never heard of a ſyllogiſm. *Locke.*

Acu'teness. *n. ſ.* [from *acute*, which ſee.]

1. Sharpneſs.

2. Force of intellects.

They would not be ſo apt to think, that there could be nothing added to the *acuteneſs* and penetration of their underſtandings. *Locke.*

3. Quickneſs and vigour of ſenſes.

If eyes ſo framed could not view at once the hand and the hour-plate, their owner could not be benefited by that *acuteneſs*; which, whilſt it diſcovered the ſecret contrivance of the machine, made him loſe its uſe. *Locke.*

4. Violence and ſpeedy criſis of a malady.

We apply preſent remedies according to indications, reſpecting rather the *acuteneſs* of the diſeaſe, and precipitancy of the occaſion, than the riſing and ſetting of ſtars. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* iv. *c.* 13.

5. Sharpneſs of ſound.

This *acuteneſs* of ſound will ſhew, that whilſt, to the eye, the bell ſeems to be at reſt, yet the minute parts of it continue in a very briſk motion, without which they could not ſtrike the air. *Boyle.*

Ada'cted. *participial adj.* [*adactus*, Lat.] Driven by force; a word little uſed. *Dict.*

A'dage. *n. ſ.* [*adagium*, Lat.] A maxim handed down from antiquity; a proverb.

Shallow unimproved intellects, that are confident pretenders to certainty; as if, contrary to the *adage*, ſcience had no friend but ignorance. *Glanville's Scepſis Scientifica, c.* 2.

Fine fruits of learning! old ambitious fool,
Dar'ſt thou apply that *adage* of the ſchool;
As if 'tis nothing worth that lies conceal'd;
And ſcience is not ſcience till reveal'd? *Dryd. Perſ. Sat.* i.

ADA'GIO. n. ſ. [Italian.] A term uſed by muſicians, to mark a ſlow time.

A'DAMANT. *n. ſ.* [*adamas*, Lat. from α and δαμάω, Gr. that is, *inſuperable*, *infrangible.*]

1. A ſtone, imagined by writers, of impenetrable hardneſs.

So great a fear my name amongſt them ſpread,
That they ſuppos'd I could rend bars of ſteel,
And ſpurn in pieces poſts of *adamant.* *Shakeſp. Henry* V.

Satan, with vaſt and haughty ſtrides advanc'd,
Came tow'ring, arm'd in *adamant*, and gold. *Parad. Loſt.*

Eternal Deities,
Who rule the world with abſolute decrees,
And write whatever time ſhall bring to paſs,
With pens of *adamant*, on plates of braſs. *Dryden's Fables.*

2. The diamond.

Hardneſs, wherein ſome ſtones exceed all other bodies, and among them the *adamant* all other ſtones, being exalted to that degree thereof, that art in vain endeavours to counterfeit it, the factitious ſtones of chymiſts, in imitation, being eaſily detected by an ordinary lapidiſt. *Ray on the Creation.*

3. Adamant is taken for the loadſtone.

Let him change his lodging from one end and part of the town to another, which is a great *adamant* of acquaintance. *Bacon, Eſſay* xix.

You draw me, you hard-hearted *adamant*!
But yet you draw not iron; for my heart
Is true as ſteel. *Shakeſpeare's Midſum Night's Dream.*

Adamante'an. *adj.* [from *adamant.*] Hard as adamant.

He ran on embattel'd armies clad in iron,
And weaponleſs himſelf,
Made arms ridiculous, uſeleſs the forgery
Of brazen ſhield and ſpear, the hammer'd cuiraſs,
Chalybean temper'd ſteel, and frock of mail
Adamantean proof. *Milton's Samſon Agoniſtes, l.* 134.

This word occurs perhaps only in this paſſage.

Adama'ntine. *adj.* [*adamantinus*, Lat.]

1. Made of adamant.

Wide is the fronting gate, and rais'd on high
With *adamantine* columns, threats the ſky. *Dryd. Æn.* vi.

2. Having the qualities of adamant; as, hardneſs, indiſſolubility.

Could Eve's weak hand, extended to the tree,
In ſunder rend that *adamantine* chain,
Whoſe golden links, effects and cauſes be,
And which to God's own chair doth fix'd remain? *Davies.*

An eternal ſterility muſt have poſſeſſed the world, where all things had been fixed and faſtened everlaſtingly with the *adamantine* chains of ſpecific gravity; if the Almighty had not ſpoken and ſaid, Let the earth bring forth graſs, the herb yielding ſeed, and the fruit-tree yielding fruit after its kind; and it was ſo. *Bentley's Sermons.*

In *adamantine* chains ſhall death be bound,
And hell's grim tyrant feel th' eternal wound. *Pope's Meſſiah.*

Tho' *adamantine* bonds the chief reſtrain,
The dire reſtraint his wiſdom will defeat,
And ſoon reſtore him to his regal ſeat. *Pope's Odyſſey, b.* i.

A'dam's-apple. *n. ſ.* [in anatomy.] A prominent part of the throat.

To ADA'PT. *v. a.* [*adapto*, Lat.] To fit one thing to another; to ſuit; to proportion.

'Tis true, but let it not be known,
My eyes are ſomewhat dimmiſh grown;
For nature, always in the right,
To your decays *adapts* my ſight. *Swift's Miſcellanies.*

It is not enough that nothing offends the ear, but a good poet will *adapt* the very ſounds, as well as words, to the things he treats of. *Pope's Letters.*

Adapta'tion. *n. ſ.* [from *adapt.*] The act of fitting one thing to another; the fitneſs of one thing to another.

Some ſpecies there be of middle natures, that is, of bird and beaſt, as batts; yet are their parts ſo ſet together, that we cannot define the beginning or end of either, there being a commixtion of both, rather than *adaptation* or cement of the one unto the other. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* iii. *c.* ii.

Their adheſion may be in part aſcribed, either to ſome elaſtical motion in the preſſed glaſs, or to the exquiſite *adaptation* of the almoſt numberleſs, though very ſmall, aſperities of the one, and the numerous little cavities of the other; whereby the ſurfaces do lock in with one another, or are, as it were, claſped together. *Boyle.*

Ada'ption. *n. ſ.* [from *adapt.*] The act of fitting.

It were alone a ſufficient work to ſhew all the neceſſities, the wiſe contrivances, and prudent *adaptions*, of theſe admirable machines, for the benefit of the whole. *Cheyne's Phil. Princip.*

To Adco'rporate. *v. a.* [from *ad* and *corpus.*] To unite one body with another; more uſually wrote *accorporate*; which ſee.

To ADD. *v. a.* [*addo*, Lat.]

1. To join ſomething to that which was before.

Mark if his birth makes any difference,
If to his words it *adds* one grain of ſenſe. *Dryd. Conq. of Gran.*

They, whoſe muſes have the higheſt flown,
Add not to his immortal memory,
But do an act of friendſhip to their own. *Dryd.*

2. To perform the mental operation of adding one number or conception to another.

Whatſoever poſitive ideas a man has in his mind, of any quantity, he can repeat it, and *add* it to the former, as eaſily as he can *add* together the ideas of two days, or two years. *Locke.*

A'ddable. *adj.* [from *add.*] That which may be added. *Addible* is more proper.

The firſt number in every addition is called the *addable* number, the other, the number or numbers added, and the number invented by the addition, the aggregate or ſum. *Cocker's Arithmetick.*

To Adde'cimate. *v. a.* [*addecimo*, Lat.] To take or aſcertain tithes. *Dict.*

To Adde'em. *v. a.* [from *deem.*] To eſteem; to account. This word is now out of uſe.

She ſcorns to be *addeem'd* ſo worthleſs-baſe,
As to be mov'd to ſuch an infamy. *Daniel's Civil Wars.*

A'dder. *n. ſ.* [Ætter, Ættor, Nædre, as it ſeems from ætter, Sax. poiſon.] A ſerpent, a viper, a poiſonous reptile; perhaps of any ſpecies. In common language, *adders* and *ſnakes* are not the ſame.

Or is the *adder* better than the eel,
Becauſe his painted ſkin contents the eye. *Shak. As you like it.*

An *adder* did it; for, with doubler tongue
Than thine, thou ſerpent, never *adder* ſtung. *Shakeſpeare's Midſum. Night's Dream.*

The *adder* teaches us where to ſtrike, by her curious and fearful defending of her head. *Taylor of living holy.*

A'dder's-grass. *n. ſ.* The name of a plant, imagined by *Skinner* to be ſo named, becauſe ſerpents lurk about it.

A'dder's-tongue. *n. ſ.* [*ophiogloſſum*, Lat.] The name of an herb.

It hath no viſible flower; but the ſeeds are produced on a ſpike, which reſembles a ſerpent's tongue; which ſeed is contained in many longitudinal cells, which open, and caſt forth the ſeeds when ripe. It grows wild in moiſt meadows, and is uſed in medicine. *Millar.*

The moſt common ſimples with us in England, are comfrey, bugle, agrimony, ſanicle, paul's-betony, fluellin, periwinkle, *adder's-tongue.* *Wiſeman's Surgery.*

A'dder's-wort. *n. ſ.* An herb ſo named, on account of its virtue, real or ſuppoſed, of curing the bite of ſerpents.

A'ddible. *adj.* [from *add.*] Poſſible to be added. See Addable.

The cleareſt idea it can get of infinity, is the confuſed, incomprehenſible remainder of endleſs, *addible* numbers, which affords no proſpect of ſtop, or boundary. *Locke.*

Addibi'lity. *n. ſ.* [from *addible.*] The poſſibility of being added.

This endleſs addition, or *addibility* (if any one like the word better) of numbers, ſo apparent to the mind, is that which gives us the cleareſt and moſt diſtinct idea of infinity. *Locke.*

A'ddice. *n. ſ.* [for which we corruptly ſpeak and write *adz*, from adeſe, Sax. an axe.]

The *addice* hath its blade made thin and ſomewhat arching.